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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/951,630 10/16/97 VANCE

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EXAMINER

TM02/0718
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ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2164
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
08/951,630

Applicant(s)

VANCE ET AL.

Examiner

Frantzy Polinvil

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on Apr 27, 2001

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle* 1035 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 99-114 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 99-114 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

20) Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 99-112 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Acebo et al (US Patent No. 6,023,679).

As per claims 99 and 100, Acebo et al discloses a Pre and Post-ticketed travel reservation information management system. The system comprises a travel planning and reporting method and system. Note the abstract. The method comprises storing in a database a set of frequent trip records, each frequent trip record associated with a traveler according to a passenger name record (note column 4, lines 53-56) and reflecting a travel itinerary without any associated travel dates. Note column 4, lines 56-62. Acebo teaches that a trip request may be made by either a traveler or an agent. The traveler or agent is then prompted to indicate a trip request corresponding to a frequent trip record found in a passenger name record (PNR). Note column 9, lines 1-11. The system then prompts the agent or traveler to for the automatic booking of a new travel reservation associated with the trip request. Note column 9, lines 12-42. The reference does not explicitly state providing dates and providing booking scheduled based on the provided dates. Providing

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dates and providing scheduled based on the provided travel dates would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art because dates are usually provided in most types of schedules or reservations in order to ensure that tickets/seats are available for a particular date/time so that departures/arrival are confirmed. Thus, the prompting steps would have been automatically displayed to the agent/user for input purposes.

As per claim 101, displaying a set of frequent trip records associated with the particular traveler and stored in the database would have been obvious to the skilled artisan as such would have been easily retrieved from the PNR for review and analysis purposes.

As per claim 102, a log of travel reservations is stored in the PNR.

As per claim 103, having an expense report associated with each entry in the log is not explicitly taught by Acebo et al. However, Acebo et al teaches that it is well known in the art to obtain trip expenses associated with a traveler's trip by obtaining expenses from different tables associated with a customer's trip. Note column 3, lines 55-67 of Acebo et al. Obtaining expenses associated with each entry in the log would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art for employee fraud analysis and expenses purposes.

As per claims 104-108, creating, automatically populating at least one field of the new expense report or prompting the particular traveler for information to complete a new expense report would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in order to fill every entry of a particular employee record from the expense database in association with particular records for analysis by the employee's organization.

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As per claims 109-110, Acebo et al checks whether components of a new travel reservation comply with predetermined policies or agreements governing travel associated with an entity. Note column 13, lines 6-14 of Acebo et al.

As per claims 111-112, note column 3 of Acebo et al.

3. Claims 113-114 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Acebo et al (US Patent No. 6,023,679) as applied to claims 99-112 above, and further in view of Kahl et al.

The teachings of Acebo et al are discussed above. Acebo et al fails to teach a calendar having icons representing events. As per claims 113-114, Acebo et al does not explicitly teach displaying a calendar showing at least one month divided into days with at least two icons on days associated with the new travel reservation wherein the icons represent components on the travel reservation. Displaying a calendar showing months divided into days with icons representing a particular item of interest is well known in the art as taught by Kahl et al. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to introduce the feature of Kahl et al into Acebo et al in order to provide instant instantly at a glance.

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Webber et al (US Patent No. 5,331,546) discloses a trip planner optimizing travel itinerary selection conforming to individualized travel policies.

5.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantzy Poinvil, whose telephone number is (703) 305-9779. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

The fax phone number for this Art Unit is (703) 305-0040.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

FP

14Jul01


Frantzy Poinvil
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2164